

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Examiner: John A. Richardson

Serial No.:

10/630,266

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For:

SYSTEM FOR PREVENTING

ACCIDENTAL OR

UNAUTHORIZED FIRING OF A

FIREARM

Docket No.

Group Art Unit:

59316-001

(YOUD.01USU1)

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I CERTIFY THAT, ON JUNE 9, 2004, THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA VA 22317-1450.

AMENDMENT FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

Amended Drawings (Figures 14 and 15) are enclosed with this paper.

Please replace paragraph [0060] with the following rewritten paragraph:

Still another example embodiment 120 of the firearm lock of this invention is [0060] shown in Figures 14 and 15. This firearm lock embodiment 120 is shown in Figure 14 installed to lock a firearm 38, and it is shown in Figure 15 in an isometric, partially exploded, and partially cut away view to better illustrate its component parts. Drawing on the descriptions above of other example embodiments and their attributes in common with this embodiment for locking firearms according to this invention, this firearm lock embodiment 120 also has a firing chamber plug 126 for placement in the firing chamber 50 of the firing arm firearm 38 to prevent loading live ammunition rounds into the firing chamber 50. It also has a barrel rod 124 extending through the barrel 31 of the firearm 38 to secure the plug 126 in place. In this firing chamber plug 126, there are two slotted holes 152, 153, which receive and engage opposite ends 147, 148 of a transverse latch pin 149 that protrude-protrudes in diametrically opposite directions from the proximal end portion 151 of an inner tube or shaft 140 of the barrel rod 124. A tool 122, such as a hexagonal wrench, (commonly known as an allen wrench), Torx® security wrench, star security wrench, or other shaped wrench, can be inserted through the muzzle 30 of the firearm 38 into engagement with a similarly shaped socket 132 in the distal end portion 133 of the inner tube or shaft 140, where it is used both to push the inner tube 122 longitudinally against the bias of spring 156 into the plug 126 and to twist the inner tube or shaft 140 to engage and disengage the latch protrusions or pins 147, 148 in the plug 126. The tool 122 does not have to be hexagonal, since any configuration that can be used to push and turn the inner tube or shaft 140 will work for this invention.